Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

silky fringes. Spikelets racemoce-panicled, about ten in number, and each about 5-flowered. Florets with a very conspicuous tuft of silky hairs at the base. Outer palea with rather numerous long hairs on its surface, about half the length of its awn, its teeth long and slender and awn-like ; awn setaceous, slightly bent sideways, or often erect, pale at the twisted base, not twisted towards the apex. Branches of the panicle about five in number, the lowest one usually deflexed in fruit, the second one widely spreading, the rest erect.

Found growing abundantly, side by side with *D. spicata*, in open places in woods, near Little Falls, New York, in July, 1868, and August, 1869. It has also been found in Pennsylvania (Porter), and New England (H. G. Jesup).

D. spicata, Beauv.—Differs from *D. Alleni* in its much smaller size, simple culms, and in the branches of the panicle not subtended by bracts ; from *D. compressa* in its straight and erect culms, and much shorter leaves ; from both in its usually (not always!) terete culms ; more or less hairy and at length convolute leaves with the ligule shorter fringed ; in its spiked-panicle with the branches all erect-appressed in fruit ; in the much shorter and fewer hairs at the base of the flower and usually on the back of the outer palea ; in the outer palea being furnished with a much shorter and stouter awn, which is strongly bent to one side, dark colored at the strongly twisted base, more or less twisted to the apex, and rather more coarsely and distinctly scabrous ; the teeth of the outer palea are also shorter, often very short and obtuse.

D. sericea, Nutt.—Is readily distinguished from all the preceding by its much larger glumes and much more hairy flowers. In general habit it resembles *D. spicata* very much, but, besides the above-mentioned characters, it is more robust, the leaves are more hairy, and the awn and teeth of the lower palea are much longer.

C. F. Austin.

25. Popular Science.—It is a good sign that publishers are seeking to feed the growing appetite for scientific knowledge, but it is a great mistake to publish books professing to impart information, unless the writer or translator has some knowledge to impart. A friend sends us some criticisms, a few (at least) of which we think it proper to print in the Bulletin, as the book to which they refer was introduced by it into good company.

"*Wonders of Vegetation, translated by Schele De Vere*," noticed in the last number of the Bulletin among the new books belonging to the Herbarium Library, seems to be a work rather out of place where it is, and, perhaps, better adapted to the Zodiacal botany of the agricultural department, or for the private libraries of the extra members legislated last year into the Club. It certainly does, however, recount remarkable wonders of vegetation, *e. g.*, p. 123 : "It is here, [Tanjourra] especially, that the *Asclepias gigantea* is found growing ; *a prickly acacia* covered with a number of exuberant lianes." Pp. 243, 244 : "*Vallisneria spiralis*," * * * "the marvellous phenomena which it presents at the time of flowering. *The female flowers appear floating on the surface, as if in anxious expectation of others which they are to fertilize.* As if in obedience to their call, the *male flowers, borne upon a long spiral stem, gradually rise from the bottom of the pond, unrolling the long flower-stalk, turn after turn,* till they also reach the surface. Here they meet the first comers ; they touch, and immediately begin to retreat once more to their dark homes beneath the waters, where they ripen their seed, and provide for new generations." P. 110: "Mount Lebanon *separates the Holy Land from Syria,* above whose loftiest mountains it towers. The range has the form of a horse-shoe, and measures *not less than three thousand miles in length.*"

These are but specimens. The italics are ours.

26. **Erodium,** L'Her.--I had the good fortune to find *Erodium cicutarium,* L'Her., in full flower yesterday, at Poughkeepsie, near the Fall Kill Creek and the Hudson River R. R. There was a small patch of it a few inches square under a red cedar, *Juniperus Virginiana,* L. The ground looked to the south-west. Of course the plant was perfectly wild and taking care of itself successfully.

April 9, 1872. JAMES HYATT.

27. **Marsilia quadrifolia,** L.—Found at Dallas, Dallas Co., Texas, July, 1870. J. BOLL.

28. **Marsilia longipes,** *n. sp.,* Austin.—About the size of *M. vestita,* H. & G., but more slender and much less hairy ; sporocarp oblong- or ovate-lanceolate, about two and a half to three lines long by less than one line in thickness, continuous with the peduncle, which is an inch or more in length. Mixed with the specimens of *M. vestita* from the Herbarium of Dr. Gray, collected in Oregon, in 1871, by *Elihu Hall.* C. F. A.

29. **Maples.**—March 12th, 1871, the Silver Maples in the streets of Brooklyn were in bloom. This year, the first appearance of flowers upon the same trees was April 5th, a difference of twenty-four days, so that our season is now about three or four weeks later than last year. It seems to be a general impression that the *Acer rubrum* blooms earlier than *A. dasycarpum,* but with us the latter is always ten days or two weeks the earlier.

The order of blooming is : 1. A. dasycarpum ; 2. A. rubrum ; 3. A. platanoides ; 4. A. saccharinum ; 5. A. pseudo-platanus.

J. S. M.

30. **New Publications.**—1. *Twenty-third Report of the Regents of the University on the New York State Cabinet of Natural History for the Year* 1869 : *Report of the Botanist ; Printed in advance of the Report : Albany,* 1872 ; pp. 135, with six colored plates of Fungi.—In this Report Mr. Peck makes another large and valuable contribution to the Flora of the State, especially the Cryptogamic, sixty-seven of the Fungi and one Alga being new to science. He gives a list of one hundred and twenty species growing on the exposed summit of Mt. Marcy ; flowering plants, fifty ; Club Mosses, three ; Mosses, thirty-two ; Liverworts, ten ; Lichens, twenty-three ; Fungi, two species ; and adds : "The number of marsh plants growing at this